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THE ETHIOPIAN DRAMA.

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WILLIAM TELL.

I 10-94

CHICAGO
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Ici on Parle Francais, 40 m.	4	3
I'll Stay Awhile, 20 min.	3	0
I'm not Mesilf at All, Irish, 25 min.		2
Initiating a Granger, 25 min.	3	0
In the Dark, 25 min.	4	2

T. S. DENISON, Publisher, 163 Randolph St., Chicago.

WILLIAM TELL

AN ETHIOPIAN INTERLUDE

AS PERFORMED BY

GRIFFIN & CHRISTY'S MINSTRELS

CHICAGO
T. S. DENISON, PUBLISHER
163 RANDOLPH ST.

WILLIAM TELL.

CHARACTERS.

HARRY.....Steward of the Bang-up Hotel.
SAM.....Fashionable Hair Dresser.
PETE.....A Waiter.
NED.....A Bootblack.

Time of playing—twenty minutes.

PROPERTIES.

Blacking kit, soap, broom, books of the play, dust, razor strop, illustrated papers for table, necessary paraphernalia of a barber shop.

STAGE DIRECTIONS.

R means right of the stage; *C* centre; *R C* right centre; *L* left; *R D* right door; *L D* left door, etc.; 1 *E* first entrance; *U E* upper entrance, etc.; *D F* door in flat or scene running across the back of the stage: 1 *G* first groove, etc. The actor is supposed to be facing the audience.

WILLIAM TELL.

SCENE.—*Barber shop of a fashionable hotel in the country. Door C., on one side a table with papers, and chairs R. of door on the other; barber's chair, window, towel, rack, etc., L. of door.* PETE *discovered seated in the chair,* SAM *leaning over the back and holding the glass in front of him.*

PETE. You's a har dresser, Sam, you is. (*Laugh.*) Doesn't I look scrumptious, hey?

SAM. You dues, you dues. Your mudder would neber take you for no one but yourself. (*Puts down glass.*)

PETE. You don't say so. Look a here, Sam, does you know your thingamgingy in de play?

SAM. (*Folding up a towel.*) Who'd ever have thunk a nig like me would be an actress?

PETE. No one, Sam, no one. I neber thought you had it in you.

SAM. Mr. Wiggins, says he—you know Mr. Wiggins—he's de man what walks on de sand wid a green bumfrella, and counts de waves wid a squintin' glass—he goes one eye on em, he does, Mr. Wiggins, says he—

PETE. (*Rising.*) I'se gwine, Sam. I'se got to clean de forks (*counts on his fingers*) and de spoons, and de plates.

SAM. (*Pushing him back.*) Stay dar. Yuse no p'liteness, now how—Mr. Wiggins, says he—boys, says he—you gib an entrytainment, and we, de boarders of de house, will flatronize it.

PETE. (*Rising.*) I'se gwine.

ENTER HARRY *suddenly, and seizing* PETE *by the shoulders, forces him into the chair.*

HARRY. Nigger, stay dar and wait until I bid thee go. (*To* SAM.) Hast thou perused thy part, and know'st thou it?

SAM. (*L.*) I hast; but know'st it not. (PETE *endeavors to escape.*)

HAR. (*Seizing him.*) Ha, ha! I have it now (*Shakes him.*) We will rehearse the part where he does shoot the apple from his head.

PETE. (*R.*) Whose head?

HAR. His son's head. (*Shakes him.*) Here are the books. (*Hands one to* SAM.) Now let's begin. (*Flings* PETE *in a chair.*)

PETE. (*Rubbing himself.*) Nice beginning, anyhow.

HAR. (*To* SAM.) Read thou the tyrant's roll. (*To* PETE.) And thou shalt be my son. (SAM *walks up and down, with open book on L.*)

PETE. Golly, you my fader—yuse a pooty fader, you is. You wants to fool me—dat's whats de matter.

HAR. It's only in de play. You sid dere and listen, dat's all. (*To* SAM.) Tyrant, now begin.

SAM. (*Walking from L. to R. and reading slowly.*) "That is your ground. Now shall they measure hence a hundred paces. Take the distance."

PETE. "A hundred paces." I say, you folks, you'll hab to go outside. Ain' no room in here.

HAR. (*Rushing up to* SAM.) "Is the line a true one?"

SAM. (*Losing his place.*) I think it am. No, no! Hold on! (*Reads.*) "What is't to thee? A little thing, a very little thing—a yard or two is nothing here or there." (PETE *falls asleep.* HARRY *finishes the rest of the sentence by bawling in his ear.*) "Were it a wolf I shot at?"

PETE. Murder! Murder!

SAM. (*Seated at table.*) "Be thankful, slave, our grace accords thee life on any terms."

PETE. (*On his knees to* SAM.) Pardon me dis time; I neber do so no more.

SAM. (*Rising.*) Get out ob de way.

HAR. (*Walking from L. to R.*) "I will be thankful, Gesler—villain, stop! You measure to the sun."

PETE. (*In chair.*) He's turned tailor, he has.

SAM. (*Walking from L. to R.*) "And what of that? What matter, whether to or from the sun?"

HAR. (*Walking from R. to C.*) "I'd have it at my back." Pretty hard stuff, Sam, hey? (*Reads.*) "The sun should shine upon the mark, and not on him who shoots. (*Sits at table.*) I cannot see to shoot against the sun. (*Rises.*) I will not shoot against the sun."

SAM. (*Sitting at table.*) "Give him his way. Thou hast cause to bless my mercy." (PETE, *in chair, snores.*)

HAR. (*Sitting down.*) "I shall remember it. I'd like to see the apple I'm to shoot at."

SAM. (*To* PETE.) Bring me dat box of instruments.

PETE. (*With shaving box.*) Here it am.

SAM. (*Reading.*) "Show me the basket, there—" (*Takes up cake of soap.*)

PETE. (*Looking around.*) Where?

HAR. (*Reading.*) "You've picked the smallest one."

PETE. Dere ain't no udder.

SAM. (*Reading.*) "I know I have."

PETE. It's all right den.

HAR. (*Reading.*) Oh! do you? But you see the color on't is dark; I'd have it light to see it better."

PETE. Dat's de best of brown soap, dat am. You couldn't see it no better if dere was a candle.

SAM. (*Reading.*) "Take it as it is. Thy skill will be the greater if thy hit'st it." (*All three talk together.*)

Enter NED, *who seats himself by the door and commences to blacken a pair of boots.*

NED. Mr. Slocum is de man what is de man. As soon as he comes back from de beach, he always get him boots cleaned, he does. Golly, I wish he'd dirty dem all de time.

PETE. (*To* SAM.) Take it! Take it! (*Hands him box and rushes up to* NED.)

NED. Some folks would tink dem folks were luny tickers.

HAR. (*Reading.*) "True, true—I didn't think of that. I wonder I did not think of that."

NED. I think it high time you did, anyway.

PETE. Dat's so, Ned.

SAM. (*To* NED *and* PETE.) Shut up, niggers; we'se a play, we is.

HAR. (*Reading.*) "Give me some chance to save my boy. (*Throws the soap at* NED, *who boxes* PETE'S *ears.*) I will not murder him if I can help it."

PETE. Daddy! daddy! (*Cries.*) Boo-hoo-o-o.

SAM. (*Rising.*) "Well! choose thyself." (*Hands box to* HARRY, *who hooks a shaving brush.*)

HAR. (*Aside.*) Dat's de ting for me. (*Rising.*) "Have I a friend among the lookers-on? (NED *drops his brush and hurries toward* HARRY, *dragging* PETE *with him.*)

NED. Two on 'em—what's de row?

SAM. (*Walking to L.*) Shut up your mouth.

HAR. (*Seizing* NED'S *hand and thrusting* PETE *aside.*) "I thank thee, Verner! * * Verner, whatever be the issue of this hour, the common cause must not stand still. Let not to-morrow's sun set on the tyrant's banner.

PETE. (*In chair.*) I'd like to know how de sun can sit on a banner. It can't be did.

NED. (*C.*) He must mean de auction flag. (*Aside.*)

HAR. (*R.*) "Verner! Verner! the boy! the boy! think'st thou he has the courage to stand it?"

NED. No.

SAM. Say "Yes."

NED. Yes.

HAR. Does he tremble?

NED. Yes.

SAM. Say "No."

NED. No.

HAR. Art sure?

NED. I art. (*All lock arms and advance toward* PETE.)

PETE. Hello! What dey gwine to do now?

HAR. "How looks he?"

SAM. (*Reading.*) "Clear and smilingly." (PETE *laughs.*) I say, Harry, we must skip some now.

HAR. All right.

SAM. (*Reading, with hand on* PETE'S *shoulder.*) "Come, Albert."

NED. (*Grasping* PETE'S *leg.*) Yes, cum, Albert.

PETE. I shan't stir.

SAM. It's no use; it can't be done. Go on, Harry.

HAR. "My boy." (*Holding out his arms to* PETE.)

PETE. My fader! (*Jumps into them, knocks down* NED.)

HAR. (*Looking in book over* PETE'S *back.*) "If thou can'st bear should not I?"

NED. (*Rising.*) But I can't.

HAR. (*Reading.*) "Go now, my son—and keep in mind that I can shoot." (NED *sings,* "*Let me kiss him for his mother.*")

HAR. (*Sitting at table.*) "Go! God bless thee, go—my bow." NED *hands him a razor strap.*) "Let me see my quiver." (PETE *brings a broom.*)

SAM. (*Walking from L. to R.*) "Give him a single arrow."

PETE. (*Breaking sprig from broom.*) Dar it am. (NED *returns to boot blacking.* SAM *commences to sweep, raising great dust.*)

HAR. Do you shoot?

PETE. No.

HAR. (*To* SAM.) Stop dat broom. (*Sneezes.*)

SAM. I wont.

HAR. (*Reading.*) "Is't so you pick an arrow, friend?" (*Sneezes.*) Hang your broom—"The point, you see, is bent, the feather jagged." (PETE *sneezes.*) That's all the use 'tis fit for. (*Treads on it.*)

SAM. (*Looking in his book.*) "Let him—*sneezes*—have another." (PETE *breaks off another.*)

HAR. "Why, 'tis better than the first." (*To* SAM.) I'll punch your nose for dis—(*continues*)—"but yet not good enough for such an aim as I'm to take." (NED *sneezes.*) "'Tis heavy in the shaft. I'll not shoot with it." (*Throws it away.*) "Let me see my quiver." (*All four sneeze at the same time.*)

HAR. Drop dat broom.

SAM. (*Commencing to dust.*) "It matters not; show him de quiver." (PETE *hands* HARRY *the broom.*)

HAR. "See if the boy is ready." (*Pulls out handful of sprigs, thrusts them into the breast of his coat.*)

SAM. (*Reading and dusting.*) "De boy is ready."

HAR. "I'm ready, too." (*Aims with the razor strap.*) Stop dat dust. (*Sneezes.*)

SAM. (*Reading.*) "Go on, go on!"

PETE. Yes, go on.

NED. (*Chewing an apple.*) Yes, go on.

HAR. "I will! I will! Now, friends, for mercy's sake, keep motionless and silent." (*Throws it through the window—a scream is heard—voice outside*—"Oh, my eye"—HARRY *drops down on the stage.*)

SAM. (*To* HARRY.) You'll have to pay for dat glass; you'se no good, no how. (*Reading.*) "Thy boy is safe! No hair of him is touched."

NED. (*Still eating.*) No, but Nancy's eye is out.

PETE. (*Rushing up to* HARRY.) Dear fader, speak to me.

NED. What ails him?

PETE. Speak, fader, speak.

SAM. (*Reading.*) "He cannot, boy." (HARRY *groans.*)

PETE. Undo his coat; he must be dead. (*To* HARRY.) Are you dead?

HAR. Yes.

PETE. I knew he was; undo his coat. (NED *undoes his coat and the sprigs drop out.* HARRY *starts, fixes his eyes on* PETE, *and clasps him to his breast.*)

HAR. (*C.*) My boy! my boy!

SAM. (*Reading.*) "For what hid you that arrow in your breast? Speak, slave!"

HAR. (*In tragic voice.*) "To kill thee, tyrant, had I slain my boy!"

SAM. (*Reading.*) "My guards, secure him!" (NED *and* PETE *stand still.*)

SAM. (*Shaking them.*) "My guards, secure him!" (NED *and* PETE *each seize* HARRY, *when a voice is heard outside,* "*Dinner ready.*" *They immediately rush out, pulling* SAM *with them.*)

HAR. (*C. reading.*) "To arms, my friends!"

SAM. (*Entering.*) Come, hurry; I want to close de shop.

NED AND PETE. (*Looking in at door.*) Yes, hurry up.

HAR. (*Reading.*) "And let no sword be sheathed."

SAM. Ned, will you be here to-morrow?

NED. Yes.

SAM. Will you, Pete?

PETE. Yes.

SAM. Harry, will you?

HAR. Yes.

SAM. (*To audience.*) And if you will also come, and bring your friends, we'll have another rehearsal of WILLIAM TELL.

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FARCES AND SKETCHES.

	M.	F.
In the Wrong House, 20 min.	4	2
Irish Linen Peddler, 40 min.	3	3
Is the Editor in? 20 min.	4	2
John Smith, 30 min.	5	3
Just My Luck, 20 min.	4	3
Kansas Immigrants, 20 min.	5	1
Kids in the Dark, 30 min.	2	3
Larkins' Love Letters, 50 min.	3	2
Limerick Boy, 30 min.	5	2
Love and Rain, sketch, 20 m.	1	1
Lucky Sixpence, 30 min.	4	2
Lucy's Old Man, sketch, 15 m.	2	3
Mike Donovan, 15 min.	1	3
Misses Bears, 25 min.	3	3
Mistake in Identity, sketch, 15 min.	0	2
Model of a Wife, 25 min.	3	2
Movement Cure, 15 min.	5	0
Mrs. Gamp's Tea, sketch, 15 m.	0	2
My Jeremiah, 20 min.	3	2
My Lord in Livery, 45 min.	4	3
My Neighbor's Wife, 45 min.	3	3
My Turn Next, 50 min.	4	3
Narrow Escape, sketch, 15 m.	0	2
Not at Home, 15 min.	2	0
On Guard, 25 min.	4	2
Persecuted Dutchman, 35 min.	6	3
Pets of Society, 30 min.	0	7
Played and Lost, sketch, 15 m.	3	2
Pull Back, 20 min.	0	6
Quiet Family, 45 min.	4	4
Realm of Time, musical allegory, 30 min.	8	15
Regular Fix, 50 min.	6	4
Rough Diamond, 40 min.	4	3
Row in Kitchen and Politician's Breakfast, 2 monologues.	1	1
Silent Woman, 25 min.	2	1
Slasher and Crasher, 1 h. 15 m.	5	2
Squeers' School, sketch, 18 m.	4	2
Taming a Tiger, 25 min.	3	0
That Rascal Pat, 35 min.	3	2
Too Much of a Good Thing, 50 min.	3	6
Turn Him Out, 50 min.	3	3
Twenty Minutes Under Umbrella, sketch, 20 min.	1	1
Two Bonnycastles, 45 min.	3	3
Two Gay Deceivers, 25 min.	3	0
Two Cents in a Fix, 20 min.	2	0
Two Ghosts in White, 25 min.	0	8
Two Puddifoots, 40 min.	3	3
Uncle Dick's Mistake, 20 min.	3	2
Very Pleasant Evening, 20 m.	3	0
Wanted a Correspondent, 1 hr.	4	4
Which Will He Marry? 25 m.	2	8
White Caps (The), musical, 30 min.	0	8
Who Told The Lie? 30 min.	5	3
Wide Enough for Two, 50 min.	5	2
Women of Lowenburg, historical sketch, 5 scenes, 50 m.	10	10
Woman Hater (The), 30 min.	2	1
Wonderful Letter, 25 min.	4	1
Wooing Under Difficulties, 35 min.	4	3
Yankee Peddler, 1 hr.	7	3

ETHIOPIAN FARCES.

	M.	F.
Academy of Stars, 15 min.	5	1
All Expenses: Or, Nobody's Son, 10 min.	2	0
Baby Coach Parade, 20 min.	4	2
Back from California; Or, Old Clothes, 12 min.	3	0
Deaf, In a Horn, 12 min.	2	0
Hamlet the Dainty, 15 min.	6	1
Handy Andy, 12 min.	2	0
Haunted House, 8 min.	2	0
Joke on Squinim (The), 25 m.	4	2
Jumbo Jum, 30 min.	4	3
Mischievous Nigger (The), 20 min.	4	2
No Cure, No Pay, 10 min.	3	1
Othello and Desdemona, 12 m.	2	0
Prof. Black's Funnygraph, 15 min.	6	0
Quarrelsome Servants, 8 min.	3	0
Rooms to Let, 15 min.	2	1
Sham Doctor (The), 15 min.	4	2
Sports on a Lark, 8 min.	3	0
Stage Struck Darky, 10 min.	2	1
Stocks Up, Stocks Down, 8 m.	2	0
Tricks, 10 min.	5	2
Two Pompeys (The), 8 min.	4	0
Uncle Jeff, 25 min.	5	2
Unhappy Pair (An), 10 min.	3	0
Villikens and His Dinah, 20 m.	4	1
Wax Works at Play, 30 min.	3	1
William Tell, 15 min.	4	0

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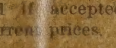

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A farce; 4 male and 2 female; 20 m.

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